

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An immunostimulating agent which comprises a complex of an immunostimulating oligonucleotide of 8 to 100 nucleotides which contains an unmethylated CpG motif and a polysaccharide having β -1,3-bonds.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) The immunostimulating agent of claim 1, wherein the phosphoric acid backbone of the oligonucleotide is phosphorothioate-modified or phosphorodithioate-modified.

4. (Original) The immunostimulating agent of claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide having β -1,3-bonds is β -1,3-glucan or β -1,3-xylan.

5. (Original) The immunostimulating agent of claim 1, wherein the β -1,3-glucan is selected from among schizophyllan, curdlan, lentinan, pachyman, grifolan, laminaran and scleroglucan.

6. (Original) The immunostimulating agent of claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide is modified with nucleic acid-binding functional group and/or cell membrane-affinitive functional group.

7. (Original) The immunostimulating agent of claim 1, wherein the complex of the oligonucleotide and the polysaccharide is of a triple helix structure formed through hydrogen bonds and hydrophobic interactions.

8. (New) The immunostimulating agent of claim 1, wherein said unmethylated CpG motif is selected the group consisting of AACGTT, AGCGTT,

GACGTT, GCGGTT, AACGTC, AGCGTC, GACGTC, GCGGTC, AACGCC, AGCGCC, GACGCC, GCGGCC, AACGCT, AGCGCT, GACGCT, and GCGGCT.

9. (New) The immunostimulating agent of claim 1, wherein said immunostimulating oligonucleotide is selected from the group consisting of:

accgataccggtgccggtgacggcaccacg	(SEQ ID NO 7);
accgatagcgctgccggtgacggcaccacg	(SEQ ID NO 8);
accgatgacgtcgccggtgacggcaccacg	(SEQ ID NO 9);
accgattcgcgagccggtgacggcaccacg	(SEQ ID NO 10);
ggggggggggcgatcgggggggggggg	(SEQ ID NO 11);
gggggggggggacgatcgcggggggggg	(SEQ ID NO 12);
gggggggggggaacgttggggggggggg	(SEQ ID NO 13);
GAGAACGCTCGACCTTCGAT	(SEQ ID NO 14);
TCCATGACGTTCTGATGCT	(SEQ ID NO 15);
TCTCCAGCGTGCGCCAT	(SEQ ID NO 16); and
GGggtcaacgttgaGGGGGg	(SEQ ID NO 17);

wherein capital letters denote a thiolated DNA.

10. (New) An immunostimulating agent formed by complexing an immunostimulating oligonucleotide which contains an unmethylated CpG motif with a polysaccharide having β -1,3-bonds.

11. (New) The immunostimulating agent of claim 10, wherein the polysaccharide to be complexed is provided with nucleic acid-binding functional groups formed by periodate oxidation of 1,6-glucopyranoside branches followed by reductive amination.